

1866

STREET SCENE IN PROVO – ABOUT 1877

ON the 17th of March, 1849, a company of thirty men was organized for the purpose of settling Utah Valley. They were led by John S. Higbee, Isaac Higbee and Dimick B. Huntington. The entire party numbered 150 people. They entered into a formal covenant with the Indians about three miles north of Provo River and promised that they "would not drive the Indians from their lands, nor deprive them of their rights." They then built Fort Utah, mounted a cannon and watched the Indians. In September they were visited by Brigham Young and other leading church men who selected the site for Provo City. It was located about two miles southeast of Fort Utah. The city was incorporated in February 1851.

Provo was named to honor Etienne Provost, a French-Canadian fur trader who discovered South Pass and was one of the first white men to see Great Salt Lake.